

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' pre-brief conference request and arguments filed 2/28/2011 have been considered and after thorough consideration, the previous rejection of claims 1, 18, 23, 28, 33, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,976,483 to Langlet et al. (herein after Langlet I), in view of WO 99/46202 to Latypov et al. and the rejection of claims 16, 17, 19-22, 24-27, and 29-32 over Langlet I, in view Latypov et al. and US 4,559,409 to Seyerl have been withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 16-34 have been found allowable over the closest prior art.

The closest prior art is Langlet I. Langlet I does not teach adding a guanylurea ion to the acidic reaction mixture to form a salt of dinitramidic acid. It was noted that the process of Langlet I and that of WO 99/46202 to Latypov et al. involve different starting materials and reaction mechanisms. More specifically, Langlet I begins with making a dinitramidic acid then neutralizes the acidic reaction mixture with a neutralizing agent, while Latypov et al. begin with a dinitramide salt then exchange the cation of the salt by driving off ammonia. It would not have been obvious to modify the process of Langlet I in view of Latypov et al. because one of ordinary skill would not have predicted that use of the guanylurea ion in the acidic reaction mixture of Langlet I would have neutralized the dinitramidic acid reaction mixture and successfully produced the guanylurea dinitramide salt. It was also noted that generating guanylurea ion *in situ* (as required by claims 16 and 21) by reacting cyanoguanidine and the acid reaction mixture was novel.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HENG M. CHAN whose telephone number is (571)270-5859. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday, 9:30 am EST to 6:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jennifer K. Michener can be reached on (571)272-1424. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jennifer K. Michener/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1728

/HENG M CHAN/
Examiner, Art Unit 1728